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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,786	10/05/2004	Per HENRIKSON	7589.204.PCUS00	5785
28694	7590	07/25/2006		
			EXAMINER	
			EDMONDSON, LYNNE RENEE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1725	

DATE MAILED: 07/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/711,786	HENRIKSON, PER	
	Examiner	Art Unit	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/2/06.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 17-56 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 17-56 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 05 October 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 17-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The terms "in connection with welding" and "in connection with a welding process" renders the claims indefinite. The connection is not clear. For examination purposes, it is presumed that this terminology is intended to make the distinction that this equipment is used with welding devices and methods as different from soldering or brazing devices and methods.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 17-21, 35-41 and 51-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Katsuta et al. (US 2002/0154811 A1).

Katsuta teaches an arrangement and computer program (abstract, paragraph 50 and figure 1) for monitoring welding (paragraphs 16 and 45) comprising a camera with a diaphragm (shutter) and computer (paragraph 17) for reproducing the welding area, UV illuminating means (paragraph 119) and a band filter (paragraph 119). Weld size and shape can be measured. Welding parameters and processes are controlled and corrected, including position and geometry of the melt (figure 12 and paragraph 16). Wavelengths around UV are typically between 250 and 450 nm.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 17-21, 31-34, 37-41, 51 and 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tallman (USPN 4663511).

Tallman teaches an arrangement for monitoring welding (col 3 lines 11-20) comprising a camera (col 8 lines 4-8 and col 2 lines 63-65) for reproducing the welding area, UV illuminating means (col 5 lines 45-61) and a filter (col 4 lines 29-62). Weld size and shape can be measured (col 3 lines 38-45) . Welding parameters and processes are controlled and corrected (col 4 lines 63-68), including position and geometry of the melt (col 3 lines 38-45 and col 4 lines 63-68). Wavelengths around UV are typically between 250 and 450 nm. As a welding process is performed, the

apparatus and method are applied in connection with welding. However the filter is not taught as a band-pass filter.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that although the filters work by different mechanisms both filter out particular wavelengths of light. The band-pass filter and polarizing filters would be obvious variations.

Response to Arguments

7. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., monitoring the welding area during the welding process or controlling a welding parameter or implement at the time of welding) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

The claims use broad terms such as "in connection with welding" and "in connection with a welding process" which teaches that the method and apparatus are somehow connected to welding but this connection is not further disclosed.

As this statement teaches only a general relationship to welding the previously stated Katsuta rejection stands.

The Tallman rejection is now based on 103.

8. Regarding the argument that Tallman does not teach a separate light for illumination which is distinct from the laser for welding see figure 10 and col 10 lines 3-25 which teach a laser (16) for processing and light (146) for illumination. Column 5 lines 45-61 teach UV illumination.

9. In response to applicant's argument that the arrangement is used to measure welds after rather than during the welding process, a recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

As stated in paragraph 7, there is no clear indication that the measuring process takes place as welding occurs but rather in connection with welding. Neither does the claim teach controlling a welding parameter or implement at the time of welding. By inspecting the formed weld and storing the data, parameters can be changed for the next process.

Therefore the 102 rejection of claims 17-21, 35-41 and 51-54 as anticipated by Katsuta stands.

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 22-30 and 42-50 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

11. Claims 55 and 56 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lynne Edmondson whose telephone number is (571) 272-1172. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Ryan can be reached on (571) 272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lynne Edmondson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1725

LRE

